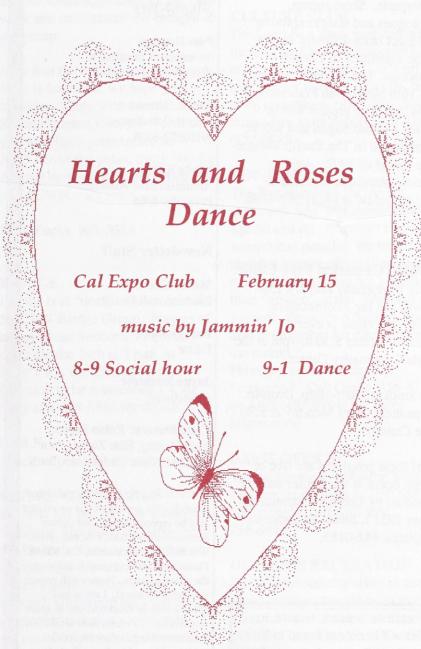
Sacramento Area Career Womens Network, Inc.



Member Special: Two tickets for \$28.00

Want to dance to your favorite song at the Valentine Dance? Call Jammin' Jo's voice mail number, 955-3328, and leave the name and the artist of your favorite song.

Calendar of Events

February 15 SACWN
Valentine Dance Cal Expo Club
March 20 SACWN Women's
Herstory (Note new date)
April 8 SACWN Special Event
Holidome

Up Coming Event

"A Celebration Of Women's Herstory". Friday, March 20 at the Clarion Hotel SACWN will have an exciting presentation of lesbian affirming music by Judy Fjell and Crystal Reeves.

HIGHLIGHTS

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A Message From the Steering Committee

For some time now, many of our regular advertisers have told us that the rates for advertising in our Newsletter are much less than other similar publications.

During the last few months we have gathered information and arrived at the same conclusion. We are not only lower, we are much lower. Consequently, effective January 1, 1992, our advertising rates will be as follows:

	Member	NonMember
Business Card	\$25.00	\$37.50
Two-column ad	\$34.00	\$60.00
Quarter page	\$50.00	\$75.00
Half page	\$90.00	\$135.00
Full page	\$160.00	\$240.00
Classified ads (per v	word) .40	.60
Discounts 1 year	20%	
1/2 year	10%	

Advertising contracts paid prior to January 1, 1992 will be honored at the old rates, but all ads submitted thereafter will be according to the new rates listed above.

It is estimated that over 1,000 people read our Newsletter each month between subscribers and those to whom they "pass on" information from the newsletter. That is great coverage at a targeted market.

Thanks for your support.

Jane Irwin Finance Coordinator

Announcing

Theatre Rhinoceros of San Francisco is accepting submissions for a new theatre piece which will explore Gay and Lesbian weddings. The focus of the piece will be on the diverse ways gays choose to commemorate their unions as opposed to their straight counterparts. Short scenes, monologues and songs exploring the subject from different angles may be submitted to Theatre Rhinoceros, The Wedding Project, 2926 16th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. The project will be directed by Paul Sagan and will be workshopped in The Studio Theatre in the spring of 1992. Any questions should be directed to Doug Holsclaw at (415) 552-4100.

Smoking Cessation Free Clinic

begins Wednesday January 15th and will run for 7 consecutive weeks. The clinic is every Wednesday from 5:30 to 7pm at the Lamda Community Center.

Stop Smoking Self-Help, Drop-In groups meet every Monday at 5:30 at the Center..

All of these programs are free of charge, occur at the Center and are sponsored by Lambda Community Center 1931 L Street Sacramento. Telephone 442-0185.

Roommate wanted, female, to share a 4 bedroom home in El Dorado Hills on cul de sac. \$350 month includes utilities. For more information call Patricia at 933-1950.

Steering Committee

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SACWN, Inc. Newsletter is published monthly. No portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without written permission from SACWN, Inc., P.O. Box 661332, Sacramento, CA 95866. Please send letters signed to editor at the above address. Names will appear with prior approval. Letters and articles may be shortened due to space restrictions. To retain individual flair, minimal editing is done on articles submitted by subscribers. To help with the newsletter, call Pam at 393-6714.

Special Interest Groups -- February

This month we would like to acknowledge and thank Gretchen for her years of coordinating the Book Group. Gretchen is one of those people you can count on—she's efficient, reliable and organized. She has held the reins of this group from beginning to end, and we really appreciate all the hard work and enthusiasm she brought to the group.

Now that the holidays are over and 1992 is launched, we hope you'll consider calling with ideas for new Special Interest Groups. To all of you who have participated in S.I.G.s over the years, thank you for making them such an important part of SACWN.

Ellie Zacks 967-3513

BRIDGE

For the best "deal" in town, join the SACWN Bridge Group. Players of all levels are welcome. February dates are the 14th at 7 p.m. at Suzy's and the 23rd at 4 p.m. (location to be announced.) Call Suzy at 1-678-3581 for details.

GOLF

This group will reconvene in April.

SOCIAL CONNECTION

So, how did you like the Whoopi Goldberg film festival? How 'bout the Pleasure Party or the Victorian Christmas in Nevada City? You weren't there? What's your excuse? Our group isn't just for singles anymore so you have no excuse. Couples are welcome, and we're not a cruise club. So, call Joan (1-795-1336), Annie (927-6038) or our newest co-facilitator, Diana (487-3124).

BOOK GROUP

This group is being discontinued.

LATE-BLOOMERS

Call Mary V. (631-7393) or Mary G. (395-1446) for more info. Tell us if you need a discreet message when we return your call.

CULTURE CLUB

1992 will be a great year and we in the Culture Club are committed to making it even better. Let's get together for movies, concerts, out of town excursions, plays, fun, fun and more. For more details, call Annie (927-6038).

TOP TEN

Top Ten is mainly for the ten percent of SACWN membership age 50 and up. Although organized around that premise, we have a thriving membership (43 women), many of whom have not yet reached their "golden" years! We meet once a month, the second Sunday, and also get together for dinner later in the month.

February's event is Sunday, February 9. Call Gayle (456-4121) or Ariel (483-9794) for more information.

DAVIS OVER 30

We are having a Valentine's gettogether on the 14th at 7:30 p.m. For location, call Kathleen 756-6358.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

We're in an identity crisis in this group and are attempting to redefine what we want to do! Call Rita Mae (454-5847) or Martina (452-6007).

SECOND STAGE RECOVERY

Exploring options, evaluating choices, creating possibilities, emerging toward a limitless future.

This is what we work for in Second Stage recovery. This is our approach as well as our goal.

If you have at least one year in a twelve step recovery program and are enthusiastic to undertake solution-focused rather than problem-focused action, join us. Call Annie (927-6038).

WOMEN SURVIVING BREAKUP

We're looking for a new facilitator for this group. Call Sandy (933-0670) or Ellie (967-3513) if you are interested.

TWENTYSOMETHING

Start the new year off right meeting new friends. We are a growing group of young sociable women. We have potlucks every month. Join us for our San Francisco trip in February. For more information, call Tina (456-1913 or Michele (447-3989)

WOMEN'S WORDS (formerly PLAY-READING)

We are expanding this group to include not only play-reading but also short story reading and poetry reading. Bring your favorite lesbian writings to our meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Call Lenora 444-0102 for location.

LESBIAN PARENTS

Sheri (739-1691)

BASKETBALL

We started in October and are playing Saturday mornings 9-11 for fun and exercise. ALL skill levels are welcome, no experience necessary. For location, call Maggie (456-1420).

NEWCOMERS

If you are either new to SACWN or find the size of other SACWN activities too large, this group might be for you. Come join us for dinner in February. Call Nancy 454-5827.



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(916) 394-3103

for current information on Women's Issues, Lesbian/Gay Issues, HIV Disease/AIDS

The **LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE** is a service of The Lambda Letters Project, a non-profit agency funded by contributions from individuals like yourself. The Project helps women, lesbians and gays, HIV positive people, and other supportive persons to express their views in letters and telephone calls.

For Further Information call: (916) 965-6851

or write: Lambda Letters Project, 6212 Silverton Way, Carmichael, CA 95608

New Lesbian Group Forming

life transitions - relationships - family of origin dependency - homophobia - family of creation

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HOLLY'S PLACE Lake Tahoe-- A wonderful women's retreat. Hike, hot tub, bicycle, ski-weather permitting, or relax by the fireplace. Private rooms, \$50-\$60, cottages, \$85-\$115. 20% discount weekdays thru Dec 15. Smoking permitted outside. Info and Reservations: (916)544-7040.

Lucie Blue Tremblay

If you missed her at the Crest
Theater in late October, you missed
out! Judging by the crowd that
turned out, she has a lot of fans: I
saw why. For Lucie Blue carries on
the thousand year old tradition of
the French Troubadour. She is,
unashamedly, a romantic and she
captivated us every minute by her
magical weaving of Story and
Song.

Troubadours originated about the tenth century in Southern France. They were men and women who wandered singly or in small groups from village to village. They gained a precarious living by their singing and playing; they were social outcasts often denied the protection of the laws and the sacraments of the Church, for they sang mostly secular songs. There were songs of courtly love in praise of women. Songs openly sensual. Songs which concealed sensuality under the veil of chivalric love. Songs on political and moral topics. Lucie sang passionately on all the above topics — except that she expanded the language of love as she sang of the intensity, the tender gentleness, the unmatched intimacy that only two women can share. For this, she remains an outcast sometimes denied the protection of the law and the sacraments of the "Church". No, Lucie — it's the same...

Recently coming out to myself, this was my first experience of Women's Music. I was pleased that my preconceptions were totally false; she was not some angry feminist warbling loudly and attacking her guitar. She coaxed us all the way with her magical voice and whistle. She made her strings touch our hearts as she played with the skill of a classical guitarist. She

spun tales with the language. animation, face, and laughter of an impish elf. Lucie knows that it is not the strident activist who affects change as much as the humorist. Laughter is an anesthetic — she opens the way into our hearts and by the time we realize it, it's too late — we feel a twinge of pain as she transplants to us her compassion for the hurting, the homeless, the immigrants, the abused. She sings of the ecstasy of the beginning of a relationship, the middle of a relationship ("Six or eight months later you finally get out of bed and separate legs to find out whose is whose.") and the end of a relationship ("Finally you stop being lovers and become friends").

Being a real Troubadour, Lucie often sings in French, as she is French Canadian. She doesn't always interpret her songs, but that's okay because we fell in love with the sounds, expression, and melody — meanings would just get in the way. (I also fell in love with Lucie: am I the only one?). Her (Canadian?) pronunciation is comical; what would follow her second album but her "turd" album? Her first and second albums were eagerly bought up by the time I got to the front of the line at the end of the show. I later bought a Lucie Blue CD at Lioness. Also out is her "Coming Out" song which she suggested you give to someone you want to come out to. It disarms the hearer with its beauty and sincerity and persuades the listener to continue to love you — knowing that this is who you really are: the way you were created. Make your New Year's Resolution to come out to at least one person you love in this way. I did.

Carol Plantamura, in her book, Women Composers, wrote something of the Troubadour, Castelloza (born about 1200) that seems to fit Lucie Blue to a "T". Was Ms. Plantamura being literal in her use of language or suggesting Lesbianism when she writes of Castelloza? (Lucie, listen close — this is you.)

"...she was a lady very gay and very accomplished and very beautiful."

Not Yet

Kathelen Johnson

"This is what I've dreamed of," my heart was whispering. "This is what I've been waiting for."

Our Friday meeting had just ended, and all of us were lingering, chatting, not yet standing up to go, when she walked in and looked around at the faces, not knowing whom to speak to, where to begin.

"May I help you?" I offered, smiling a welcome.

With a charming mixture of shyness and boldness she spoke. "I meant to come for the meeting, to get here on time. When I saw I couldn't make it, I thought I'd come anyway, at least to find it, so I'd know where to go for the next time. So, this is the group?"

And the two of us introduced ourselves. Jeanne her name was. Jeanne Shaw, a name as gentle and dignified as her self. First I answered her questions about our group and then she told about her interest in joining us.

With low, calm, measured words, spoken with conviction she told how she loved living in

continued (Not Yet)

Sacramento, how happy she was she had moved here.

"Why?" I pressed for details, enjoying watching her face.

A smile rested easily in the corners of her mouth. Her soft blue eyes looked directly into mine, and her answer came from deep within. "It feels like home."

Home. That's what I was feeling, standing off to the side of the room, apart from the others, with Jeanne. Home. She looked so familiar to me, like home, as if I'd always known her. Her warming smile, her peaceful voice, her beautiful figure, her manner of calm assurance... "She's one!" I thought. "She's a lesbian. She's got to be one."

And then, with "See you at the next meeting!" she was gone.

The thrill of meeting her brightened my whole day. I floated. When I got home, I was still so energized I cleaned the whole house, usually my least favorite activity of all. Feeling this glow, I wanted to be surrounded by beauty and cleanliness. Maybe I'd even invite her over. Oh brother, I was head over heels in love again.

All weekend I was still on Cloud Nine. "Jeanne Shaw," I kept thinking. "I can't wait to see her again!"

A late bloomer, I was over 30 before I divorced, had my first full lesbian romance, and finally discovered that, wonder of wonders, I was not "the only one," that lots of women love women and it's natural and good. Then I looked back at all the friendships I'd had with women and at last realized why they'd caused me such

frustration: because those women were straight and I'm lesbian and there's a difference.

Coming out felt like running around in a t-shirt, shorts, and bare feet on a warm spring day after having been laden with layers of winter clothing for so long. I felt natural, liberated, uninhibited, exhilarated, free!

Now here I was, falling in love again, able to recognize it and admit it, and this time she was almost surely a lesbian. Hallelujah! Eureka! Right on!

I remembered where she'd said she worked, and I phoned her office. Her name was chiseled in stone in my memory. Courageously, I asked her out. She accepted. Joy!

"Shall I come to your house after work and pick you up, so we can drive to the restaurant together?" she offered over the phone.

Panic! I thought rather than spoke, "Heavens no! Beautiful you, with me, alone together, in a private place... Too dangerous! I don't trust myself, my hands, my desires. Better to meet in a very public place." Aloud I said, "No, thanks. Just drive straight to the restaurant from work, and I'll be there waiting."

On the phone she'd mentioned "the lady I live with." Uh-oh, a little voice told me. Shut up! My longing blocked it out. I waited with anticipation for the evening of our dinner date.

Jeanne sat across the table from me, and I couldn't take my eyes off her. She was ravishing, her silky raspberry blouse with three buttons opened, showing her flawless skin, gold dangle earrings, attracting my

gaze to her face, her friendly face, so open, honest, real, vulnerable, kind. I bet everyone falls in love with Jeanne, I thought. I was to hear later, that's so.

Yes! She was a lesbian. And oh, God help me, the woman she lived with was her lover. I didn't want to hear it. I didn't want to believe it. I rebelled against it. But facts are facts.

Outside in the parking lot, ready to say good-bye, I was still so happy just being with Jeanne, even while my heart was breaking with the knowledge that she was taken, that she had a lover. There we stood, me loving her and her not loving me. What we said I forget. My heartache I remember, knowing then I couldn't touch her, beautiful Jeanne, who belonged already to someone else.

Then, in saying good-bye, she looked me in the eye, smiled, and hugged me. A wrap-around, firm holding that warmed me to the core. For a moment: heaven. What a gift!

Heading home alone in the car, with logical thinking I analyzed the episode. Once again my affectionate heart had made a mistake, fallen in love with someone unavailable to me. Back to square one.





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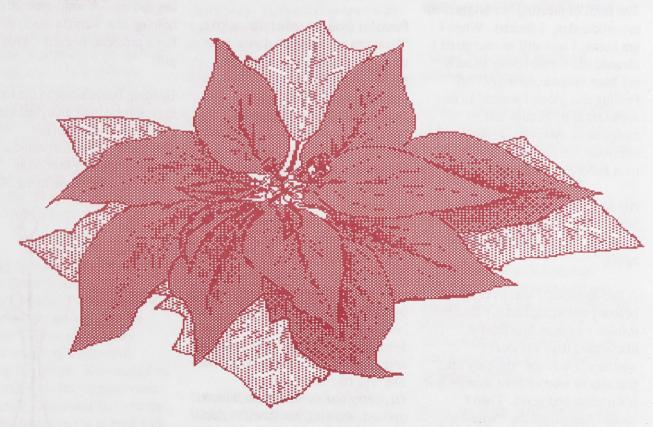
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Cal Expo Club

February 15, 1992

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